

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is planned that Airports Authority of India (AAI) will receive income from leasing of airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai. This income will also be available to AAI for running of loss making airports.

Non-availability of Telephone on Demand

†3128. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's response towards the news-item published under the caption "Fir bhi telephone mang per uplabdh nahin ho sakega" in the Dainik Jagran, dated the 4th July, 2000;

(b) whether Government have formulated any such scheme under which the said problem may be solved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) the total demand for new telephone connections in the country as envisaged in the Ninth Plan Period was 237 lakh telephones. Out of these 237 lakh new telephones it was envisaged that the DTS (the then DoT) and MTNL will provide 185 lakh telephones and balance 52 lakh to be provided by private sector.

During Mid Term Appraisal of Ninth Plan, it was observed that provision of telephones by private sector was slow and lagging behind. As such it was decided to increase the target of DTS + MTNL to 222.7 lakh and balance by private sector.

During the first three years of the Ninth Year Plan i.e. from 1.4.97 to 31.3.2000, 119.68 lakh new telephone connections have already

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[22 August, 2000]

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been provided by DTS and MTNL. During 2000-01 it is proposed to provide additional 57.9 lakh new telephone connections including MTNL. Much higher target is proposed to be taken up during the last year (2001-02) of the Ninth Five Year Plan taking into account the waiting list at the beginning of the fifth year of the Ninth Plan. It would be the utmost endeavor of the department to meet the objectives of providing telephone on demand by 31.3.2002 with whatever contribution that may be provided by the private basic service operators.

Non-Delivery of Money Order

3129. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Money Order delivery system in Samastipur district of Bihar is in shambles;

(b) whether Money Orders are not delivered in LAT Basepura village of this District, for months together unless complaints are made at the highest level;

(c) whether any complaint has been registered regarding non-delivery of Money-Order sent in April, 2000 from H-Block post office, Vikasuri, New Delhi;

(d) if so, the action since taken in the matter; and

(e) the details of steps Government propose to take to streamline the delivery system and punish those guilty for the lapse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Delivery of Money Orders at LAT Basepura is prompt and satisfactory. A complaint was received on 28.02.2000 about non-payment of Engineering College Murthal Money Order No. 4115 dated 05.11.99 for Rs. 1000/- payable at LAT Basepura Post Office. A duplicate money order was got issued and paid on 28.02.2000.

(c) Yes, Sir. Five complaints relating to Money Orders booked in April, 2000 from H-Block Post Office, Bikasuri New Delhi were received. Out of these, in two cases, duplicate money orders have